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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

3. (amended) The [use] animal feed of claim 1, wherein the dosage of the protease is 0.01-200 mg protease enzyme protein per kg feed.

4. (amended) The [use] method of claim 2, wherein the [intended dosage of the] protease is added at a dosage of 0.01-200 mg protease enzyme protein per kg feed.

5. (amended) A method for improving the nutritional value of an animal feed, wherein at least one acid-stable protease is added to the feed, and wherein the protease is selected from the group consisting of

(i) [is] proteases of the subtilisin family; and[/or]

(ii) [has] proteases having less than 10% residual activity when inhibited with SSI.

6. (amended) An animal feed additive comprising

[(a)] at least one acid-stable protease; and at least one compound selected from the group consisting of

[(b) at least one] fat-soluble [vitamin] vitamins; [and/or]

[(c) at least one] water-soluble [vitamin, and/or] vitamins,

[(d) at least one] trace [mineral, and/or] minerals, and

[(e) at least one] macro [mineral] minerals;

wherein the protease is selected from the group consisting of

(i) [is] proteases of the subtilisin family; and[/or]

(ii) [has] proteases having less than 10% residual activity when inhibited with SSI.

7. The animal feed additive of claim 6, wherein the amount of the protease corresponds to an